

Service Date: June 4, 1999

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER OF U S WEST)	UTILITY DIVISION
COMMUNICATIONS, INC., Application)	
to Amend and Renew Generic)	DOCKET NO. N99.5.128
Protective Order)	
)	ORDER NO. 6172

PROTECTIVE ORDER

On May 13, 1999, U S West Communications, Inc. (USWC), filed before the Public Service Commission (PSC) an application to amend and renew USWC's existing generic protective order, approved May 30, 1995, through PSC Docket No. N-95-36, Order No. 5852. USWC's proposed generic protective order amends the existing order in several ways and extends the order to USWC's annual reports (a PSC legal staff suggestion to USW).

The PSC has considered USWC's application and determines that the existing generic protective order (Order No. 5852) should be approved for an additional year (effective from the service date above to June 12, 2000) without amendment, except as follows: information submitted through scheduled reporting or upon PSC request or through other means, which pertains to USWC service quality or compliance with PSC service standards will not be protected under this generic protective order unless USWC first requests and demonstrates that the information should be protected and the PSC approves the request.

The PSC is considering standardizing and simplifying the PSC's protective order process. In that process, the PSC will consider the amendments suggested by USWC in USWC's present application, including whether annual report information should be governed by a generic protective order.

Done and dated this 2nd day of June, 1999, by a vote of 5-0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DAVE FISHER, Chair

NANCY MCCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

GARY FELAND, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.

EXHIBIT "A"

I have reviewed the foregoing Protective Order in U S WEST Communications, Inc.
Docket No. N99.5.128 dated June 2, 1999 and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of
such order.

Signature

Typed or Printed Name

Employer or Firm

Business Address

Party

Date